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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/608,483	06/30/2003	Toshiaki Denpo	116196	7835

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OLIFF & BERRIDGE, PLC  
P.O. BOX 19928  
ALEXANDRIA, VA 22320

EXAMINER
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SAFAIPOUR, HOUSHANG

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2625

MAIL DATE	DELIVERY MODE
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06/13/2007

PAPER

**Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.**

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

# Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/608,483

Applicant(s)

DENPO, TOSHIAKI

Examiner

Houshang Safaipoor

Art Unit

2625

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

## Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

## Status

- 1) ☐ Responsive to communication(s) filed on \_\_\_\_.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

## Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-19 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☒ Claim(s) 11-15 and 17-19 is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1- 5 and 7 and 16 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☒ Claim(s) 6 and 8-10 is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

## Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 30 June 2003 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.  
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).  
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

## Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some \* c) ☐ None of:
- 1) ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
  - 2) ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_.
  - 3) ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

## Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)  
Paper No(s)/Mail Date 6/30/03.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)  
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. \_\_\_\_.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
- 6) ☐ Other: \_\_\_\_.

**DETAILED ACTION**

***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112***

1. Claims 7 and 16 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, first paragraph, as failing to comply with the written description requirement. The claim(s) contains subject matter which was not described in the specification in such a way as to reasonably convey to one skilled in the relevant art that the inventor(s), at the time the application was filed, had possession of the claimed invention. Both claims recite that the media card blinks when data is retrieved from the media card. There is no support in the specification.

***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103***

2. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

3. Claims 1-3 and 5 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Kobayashi et al. (US 5,485,245), and further in view of Kinoshita et al. (US 2003/0107762).

Regarding claim 1, kobayashi discloses a multifunction device, comprising:

a body (fig. 1, col. 2, lines 49-54);

a media slot (figs. 4A, card slot 91) placed on the body and which receives a media card

(col. 6 line 34);

Kobayashi discloses that when the insertion of a card in the card slot 91 is detected, an indicator 93 is lighted (fig. 4A, col. 6, line 38). The indicator 93 is located on the same plane as card insertion slot. Kinoshita discloses an apparatus that the card slot is placed on a plane different from the plane accommodating the display and the control panel (fig. 8, page 8, paragraphs [0223-0227]). Therefore it would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art to use the structure, introduced by Kinoshita, in multifunction device of Kato in order to have the lighted indicators on different plane for better visualization.

Regarding claim 2, Kinoshita discloses the multifunction device of claim 1, wherein a cover is placed on the body (fig. 8, cover 40A).

Regarding claim 3, Kinoshita discloses the multifunction device of claim 2, wherein the control panel and the media card indicator are provided on the body (fig. 8).

Regarding claim 5, Combination of Kobayashi and Kinoshita discloses the multifunction device of claim 1, wherein the multifunction device is a flat bed multifunction device, comprising:

the body that includes an image forming apparatus in which an image can be formed on a recording medium, the control panel and the media card indicator (please refer to the discussion under claim 1); and

a cover that includes an image reading device that reads an image recorded on a document, wherein the cover is placed on a surface of the body (Kinoshita, fig. 8).

Art Unit: 2625

4. Claim 4 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Kobayashi et al. (US 5,485,245), in view of Kinoshita et al. (US 2003/0107762) and further in view of Leong (US D462,971).

Regarding claim 4, Kato discloses the multifunction device of claim 1, wherein the control panel extends from the body.

5. Claim 7 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Kobayashi et al. (US 5,485,245), in view of Kinoshita et al. (US 2003/0107762) and further in view of Gennetten (US 2004/0201774).

Regarding claim 7, (as best understood by the examiner) Gennetten discloses a digital camera that causes a light to blink when its memory is downloading (page 5 [0042]). Therefore it would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art to use this feature in the combination of Kobayashi and Kinoshita's printing apparatus in order to indicate downloading in progress to the.

6. *Allowable Subject Matter*

Claim 6 is objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. The prior art does not disclose a multifunction device, wherein pressing of the media card indicator places the control panel in a mode to download and print data from the media card.

Claim 8 is objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. The prior art does not disclose a multifunction device, wherein at least one of the copy function, the fax function or the scan function includes an indicator, and the control panel is in a mode to download data from the media card when the indicator is off.

Claim 9 is objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. The prior art does not disclose a multifunction device, with a function key associated with a least used function placed between two function keys.

Claim 10 is objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. The prior art does not disclose a multifunction device, with the copy function key, the fax function key and the scan function key turned off when the media card indicator is pressed.

Claims 11-15 and 17-19 are allowed. The prior art does not disclose a multifunction device comprising: "...a control panel including a media card indicator that illuminates when a media card has been inserted into the media slot, wherein pressing of the media card indicator places the control panel in a mode to download and print data from the media card."

Art Unit: 2625

7.

*Contact Information*

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Houshang Safaipoor whose telephone number is (571)272-7412.

The examiner can normally be reached on Mon.-Fri. from 6:00am to 2:30pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, David Moore can be reached on (571)272-7437. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

Houshang Safaipoor  
Patent examiner  
June 4, 2007

